

# SPACE

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL DESIGN

May/June 2022

[www.hotelspaceonline.com](http://www.hotelspaceonline.com)

May/June 2022

PEOPLE

|

PLACES

|

PROJECTS

|

PRODUCTS

## ENTREPRENEUR FOCUSES ON NATURE'S BOUNTY AT TUSCAN RETREAT

Historic Castelfalfi in Tuscany has opened for its first season since the 1,100-hectare estate was acquired last year. New owner, Indonesian entrepreneur Sri Prakash Lohia, set out to turn the property into a luxury organic estate and immersive retreat that works in harmony with nature and the local community to create a centre of agricultural and culinary excellence.

Guest accommodation is provided by the Toscana Resort Castelfalfi, a five-star hotel and spa, located across two buildings. At the launch in April, the hotel unveiled a new look, with a more refined approach to the contemporary design of common areas, including the entrance, lobby, Ecrù Bar and panoramic terrace. In addition to interior and exterior updates, a restyle of guest rooms and suites is also under way. Some of these were completed for the 2022 season and others will be finalised during the winter ahead of the 2023 reopening.

The new design aims to blend the indoor guest experience with the outdoor beauty of the surrounding estate. A comprehensive program of activities has been extended to provide guests with a tailored Tuscan experience. Visitors will be able to choose from more than 50 experiences, including trekking through the vineyards, horseback riding, cycling in the country hills, wine tastings, cooking classes, truffle hunting, archery and hot air balloon trips.

The spa has revamped its offering with the introduction of natural ESPA products. It also features heated indoor and outdoor pools, whirlpools, a Finnish sauna and sensory showers.



## HARD ROCK TUNES IN TO HUNGARIAN VIBE

Blending local culture with musical memorabilia, Hard Rock Hotel Budapest opened its doors in the centre of the Hungarian capital in March.

"Our first hotel in the central European region will introduce our signature entertainment-infused hospitality, set against a new and unexpected backdrop," said Jon Lucas, chief operating officer at Hard Rock International.

The hotel, with architecture by Hungarian Stúdió 100 Építészeti Kft, comprises 136 rooms and suites, and two eateries and bars. The property combines an old Budapest facade with a sleek, new design. Interior glass hallways link the historic part of the hotel to the newly built section.

The lobby is filled with musical touches and bright pops of colour. A yellow grand piano contrasts against cerulean blue velvet sofas, all framed by an assortment of curated memorabilia. There are more than 50 items of musical and entertainment history showcased throughout the hotel, including Hungarian singer songwriter Janos Brody's leather jacket, a vibrant purple faux fur coat worn by Prince and a black sequin dress worn by Beyoncé.

Designed to feel like a private residence, the interiors by Barcelona-based Lázaro Rosa-Violán Studio, offer plush seating areas throughout, and a cosy fireplace in the lobby. The jewel tones and tiles pay homage to famous spas and thermal baths of Hungary, offering a local twist on the signature colourful experience at Hard Rock Hotels' around the world.